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most pleasant and instructive way. The discourse by Dr. Philip S. Moxom on the "Moral and Social Aspects of War" was one of the ablest which we have ever heard on that subject. Dr. Grammer's address on the "Religious Principles of the Peace Movement," though prepared in two weeks time, delighted all who heard it.

A full report of the proceedings of the Peace Congress, including all the papers read, will be published as early as possible. Notice will be given in the *ADVOCATE* when the Report is ready. It will be sold at a price just sufficient to cover the expense of publication.

### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The extra session of Congress met on the 7th of August. President Cleveland sent in his special message at once, which, after an exposition of the unfortunate workings of the so called Sherman statute of the 14th of July, 1890, recommended the prompt repeal of the silver-purchase provisions of this act. The debate on the subject began almost immediately in both Houses of Congress, and continued till the 28th of August. On this date the Wilson repeal bill was passed in the House of Representatives by the surprising majority of 130 in a total vote of 350. This vote, when announced, was received with great pleasure throughout the land, except by the free-silver men. It was a splendid victory for sound money.

The International Socialist Congress at Zurich passed a resolution commending universal peace. A proposition was also made that in the event of war a general strike of workmen should be declared. This proposition was voted down, but it is not improbable that such a resolution may pass in their meeting next year. A general strike of workmen would paralyze any war. The Socialists are doing much for the cause of peace. In their congresses Frenchmen and Germans meet in perfect friendliness, and prove that they can easily rise above international animosity and treat each other as brethren.

Minister Blount's report on Hawaiian affairs was received by Secretary Gresham on the 3d of August. It is understood that the subject will not be taken up for decision until the present financial discussions are over. The administration is having difficulty in finding some one willing to accept the position of minister to Hawaii.

The French blockade of Bangkok was raised on the 2d of August. The trouble does not seem, however, to be at

an end. The French demands, since formulated in twelve articles, are such that as yet Siam has not agreed to accept them.

A battle between French and Italian workmen took place at Aigues Mortes in the south of France on the 17th of August, in which about forty-five persons, mostly Italians, were killed, and at least sixty-five wounded. The event awakened great feeling throughout Italy, but the French government through the President of the Council expressed its great regret, promised to bring the offenders to justice and suspended the syndicate of Aigues Mortes. Thus the matter ended.

Republicanism has been more or less problematical in France ever since the downfall of the Empire in 1871. But at each succeeding election it has made substantial gains. In the recent general election the Conservatives, in the first two ballots, have been, it would seem, hopelessly defeated, having elected less than one-eighth of the whole number of deputies returned.

The storms which swept the Atlantic coast on the 24th and 30th of August were unusually severe and caused great loss of life and property. The Sea Islands off South Carolina were the greatest sufferers, the inhabitants being left in a helpless and starving condition.

### LETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION AND PEACE ASSOCIATION TO THE PEACE WORKERS IN FRANCE.

The following letter has been addressed by the International Arbitration and Peace Association of London to the Peace workers in France.

INTERNATIONAL ARBITRATION AND PEACE  
ASSOCIATION, 40 & 41 Outer Temple,  
LONDON, W.C., July 28, 1893.

DEAR FRIEND:

At the fortnightly meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Arbitration and Peace Association, held on the 18th instant, the present state of public opinion in France regarding the supposed attitude of the British Government and people towards France, came under consideration.

Our Committee has always been strongly of opinion that if armed conflicts are to cease between civilized nations,—especially between those which enjoy political liberty,—the result must be brought about by the action of the people themselves, independently of that of governments and rulers. It seems to us unreasonable to suppose that the possibility of war will cease so long as any one nation cherishes towards another nation sentiments of mistrust, suspicion and dislike. We think it necessary to lay stress upon this elementary truth, because we consider that members of Peace Societies too